



**Health Services**  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County  
Board of Supervisors

April 14, 2006

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.  
Acting Director and Chief Medical Officer

Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director of Public Health and Health Officer

SUBJECT: WEST NILE VIRUS PLAN FOR 2006

Bruce A. Chernof, MD  
Acting Director and Chief Medical Officer

John R. Cochran III  
Chief Deputy Director

William Loos, MD  
Acting Senior Medical Officer

As we approach the beginning of the warm weather months, we need to be prepared for West Nile Virus (WNV). This is to inform you of Public Health's plans for WNV for 2006.

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In 2005, California reported 928 cases of WNV infection, 43 of which were in Los Angeles County. There were no WNV associated deaths in LAC, but WNV remains an important endemic, vector-borne infection for the foreseeable future. The final 2005 epidemiological report is attached.

Once again, the following Public Health units have key responsibilities for WNV: Acute Communicable Disease Control (ACDC), the Public Health Laboratory (PHL), Veterinary Public Health (VPH), and Environmental Health (EH):

*To improve health  
through leadership,  
service and education.*

- ACDC will conduct surveillance as in past years, including case investigation, weekly surveillance reports for posting on our web site, and regular communication with the State and local vector control districts. An updated surveillance plan is ready.
- ACDC's updated speakers' bureau WNV presentation has been distributed to our volunteer speakers in various departments.
- ACDC will distribute a letter by May 1 to LAC physicians reminding them that WNV is a reportable disease and that testing is available through the PHL.



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- ACDC continues to be part of the WNV Interagency Task Force, consisting of representatives of EH and VPH, the mosquito abatement districts, the State's vector-borne disease section, and officials from the Pasadena and Long Beach health departments.
- VPH will continue its surveillance in bird, squirrel, and horse populations (these species experience high morbidity and mortality from WNV).
- EH will continue to work closely with the vector and mosquito abatement districts, which have the primary responsibility for enforcing mosquito abatement; Public Health will arrange for abatement services in Agua Dulce and Acton by the Antelope Valley Mosquito Abatement District through the end of FY 2006.
- EH will continue its educational (pamphlets, speakers) activities in WNV mitigation.

If you have any questions or need more information, please let us know.

BAC:JEF:bp

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors



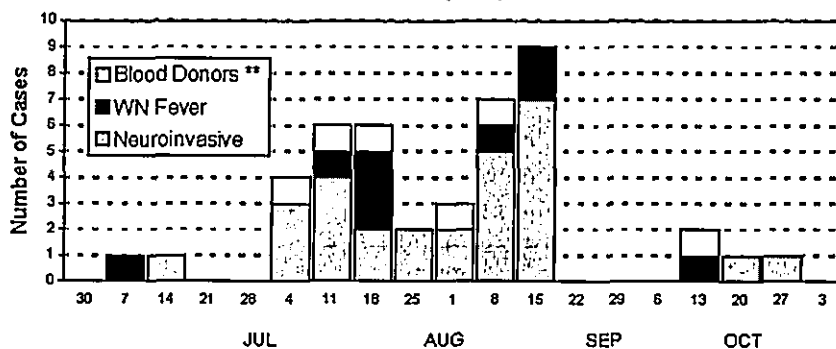
## WEST NILE VIRUS: Epidemiology Report Cumulative Totals – November 16, 2005

### West Nile Virus Case Characteristics - Los Angeles County, 2005<sup>1</sup>

	Total #	Information Unknown <sup>2</sup>	Clinical Presentation						Demographics	
			Blood Donor	WN Fever	Neuro-invasive	Neuroinvasive Diagnosis	Hospitalized <sup>3</sup>	Deaths	Gender (M / F)	Median Age (range)
<b>TOTAL to date<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>	13 = Encephalitis 15 = Meningitis 0 = Acute Flaccid Paralysis	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23 / 20</b>	<b>56 yrs (4-89 yrs)</b>

1. Excludes cases in Long Beach and Pasadena. Totals are provisional and subject to change.
2. Cases reported positive but clinical and demographic information is pending.
3. Hospitalized at time of diagnosis and may not reflect current clinical status.
4. Cumulative case total as of Wednesday 11/16/05, 4pm.

**West Nile Disease Cases by Week of Symptom Onset \***  
Los Angeles County, 11/16/05  
(N=43)



\* Week of case confirmation does not necessarily reflect the week of illness onset. In 2004, LAC WNV cases were confirmed an average of 22 days after illness onset.  
\*\* Blood donors listed by date of donation.

**West Nile Virus: Case Count by Service Planning Area (SPA)**  
Los Angeles County, 11/16/2005

LOCATION	TOTAL to date <sup>1</sup>
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	0
SPA 2: San Fernando	18
SPA 3: San Gabriel	4
SPA 4: Metro	0
SPA 5: West	1
SPA 6: South	2
SPA 7: East	12
SPA 8: South Bay	6
Residence Unknown <sup>2</sup>	0
<b>TOTAL<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>43</b>

1. Totals are provisional and subject to change.
2. Demographic information is excluded or pending.
3. Cumulative case total as of Wednesday 11/16/05, 4pm.

**Dead Birds Identified with West Nile Virus by ZIP Code**  
Los Angeles County, 2005  
(as of 11/16/2005)

